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Viewing cable 08NEWDELHI1353, AMBASSADOR MEETS L.K. ADVANI TO URGE BJP TO BACK NUKE DEAL

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08NEWDELHI1353**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08NEWDELHI1353	2008-05-16 11:16	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy New Delhi

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/article1547616.ece>

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VZCZCXRO6095
OO RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHNE #1353/01 1371116
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 161116Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1768
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUCNNSG/NCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP COLLECTIVE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6422
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 7737
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 001353

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/12/2018
TAGS: PREL PGOV KDEM SOCI IN
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MEETS L.K. ADVANI TO URGE BJP TO BACK NUKE DEAL
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Classified By: Ambassador David Mulford for Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

NO VISIT TO USA FOR NOW

1. (C) The Ambassador on May 8 again urged BJP leader L.K. Advani in a private meeting to exhibit statesmanship and either back the nuclear deal or to advise Advani to back the nuclear deal. Advani PLEASSED WITH THE MEETING

2. (C) Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon told the Ambassador May 14 that Advani had related that he was grateful for Ambassador Mulford's offer to visit India. SHIFTING SANDS?

3. (C) The timing of the Advani meeting was deliberate. One circumstance under which we see Advani visiting Washington is if the BJP changes its position on the nuclear deal. A POSSIBLE SCRIPT FOR A REVERSAL

4. (C) If the party were to decide to end its opposition, it could potentially do so by saying:
-- The BJP continues to have some concerns about the agreement, but believes that it is overall a good deal and the best that is possible in the current situation;
-- When the BJP comes to power, it may enact its own "Hyde Act" to maintain reciprocity;
-- Meanwhile, the BJP assesses that it is now in the larger national interest for India to move forward with this deal because the damage from the current situation is too great;
-- Having indicated that the BJP would not stand in the way of the completion of the deal, it would be up to the Congress Party now to move it forward.
PUTS THE FOCUS ON SONIA

5. (C) If this was to be the BJP's new posture, the party could cast itself as a party of principle that believes in the national interest over party politics. NEW DELHI 00001353 002 OF 002
knowledge the BJP is pro-deal.
KALAM ALSO TRYING

6. (C) After meeting Advani, Ambassador paid a call on former President Kalam May 14 to thank him for his public support for the nuclear initiative. MULFORD